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Docket No. 60674(49381)

### DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that: My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name. I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed at 201) below or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed at 201-206 below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:  
**SHEET FEEDING APPARATUS, IMAGE READING APPARATUS AND IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS**

which is described and claimed in:

☐ the specification attached hereto.

☒ the specification in U.S. Application Serial Number 10/772,771 filed on February 4, 2004.

☐ the specification in PCT international application Number, \_\_\_\_\_  
filed on \_\_\_\_\_; and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a). I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign/PCT Applications and Any Priority Claims Under 35 U.S.C. §119:			
Application No.	Filing Date	Country	Priority Claimed Under 35 U.S.C. §119?
2003-030134	February 6, 2003	Japan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 of any United States application(s) or PCT international application(s) designating the United States of America that is/are listed below, and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in that/those prior application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

**Prior U.S. Applications or PCT International Applications Designating the U.S.-Benefit Under 35 U.S.C. §120**

U.S. Applications		Status (Check One)		
Application Serial No.	U.S. Filing Date	Patented	Pending	Abandoned

  

PCT Applications Designating the U.S.					
Application No.	Filing Date	U.S. Serial No. Assigned			

**CLAIM FOR BENEFIT OF PRIOR U.S. PROVISIONAL APPLICATION(S)  
(35 U.S.C. §119(e))**

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

Applicant	Provisional Application Number	Filing Date

**POWER OF ATTORNEY:** As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) with full powers of association, substitution and revocation to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

David G. Conlin	(Reg. No. 27,026)	Christine C. O'Day	(Reg. No. 38,256)	Peter J. Manso	(Reg. No. 32,264)
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	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	CITY	STATE OR COUNTRY AND ZIP CODE

I hereby further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Signature of Inventor 201 <i>Hiroshi Nagao</i>	Signature of Inventor 202 <i>[Signature]</i>
Date: May 31, 2004	Date: May 31, 2004
Signature of Inventor 203 <i>Kazuo Nakamura</i>	Signature of Inventor 204 <i>Shichi Takata</i>
Date: May 31, 2004	Date: May 31, 2004
Signature of Inventor 205	Signature of Inventor 206
Date:	Date: